

## NEWS RELEASE

**Ag Chemical Usage  
May 15, 2003**

### NORTH DAKOTA FERTILIZER AND CHEMICAL USAGE

North Dakota farm operators applied nitrogen to 97 percent of their other spring wheat acres in 2002, unchanged from 2000, according to USDA's North Dakota Agricultural Statistics Service. The most recent comparison data for other spring wheat was from 2000. Phosphate was applied to 83 percent of the other spring wheat acres, unchanged from 2000, while potash applications, at 19 percent of the acreage, were up from 12 percent in 2000.

Nitrogen was applied to 88 percent of the durum acreage in 2002. Phosphate was applied to 58 percent and potash to 5 percent. The most recent comparison data for durum was also from 2000. During 2000, nitrogen was applied to 86 percent of the durum acreage, phosphate 66 percent, and potash 5 percent.

During 2002, nitrogen was applied to 64 percent of the soybean planted acreage, phosphate was applied to 59 percent, and potash was applied to 11 percent. During 2000, nitrogen was applied to 46 percent of the soybean planted acreage and phosphate to 41 percent. No data was available for potash applications on soybean acreage in 2000.

The most popular herbicide in North Dakota for 2002 was MCPA for other spring wheat and 2,4-D for durum wheat, used on 62 percent and 55 percent of the acreage, respectively. Other commonly used herbicides for other spring wheat include Fenoxaprop, applied to 42 percent of the acreage and Bromoxynil, applied to 30 percent of the acreage. Other common durum herbicides included MCPA, applied to 36 percent of the acreage, and Fenoxaprop, applied to 22 percent.

The most common herbicide applied in North Dakota in 2002 for soybeans was Glyphosphate, used on 50 percent of the soybean acreage. Other commonly used herbicides for soybeans included Sethoxydim, applied to 25 percent of the acreage and Bentazon, applied to 24 percent.

The agricultural chemical use estimates in this report refer to on-farm use of commercial fertilizers and pesticides on targeted crops for the 2002 crop year. The farmers operating the sampled fields were personally interviewed late in the growing season or after the farm operator had indicated that planned applications were completed.

***For More Information Contact:***